

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FIVE MARY A. HOSTETTLER

### HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2017*

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chief Warrant Officer Five Mary A. Hostetler on her retirement from the United States Army Reserve and to recognize the tremendous contributions of her 40 years of service to our Central Coast and country.

Chief Hostetler has a special connection to the Central Coast, receiving degrees from Monterey Peninsula College and the University of California, Santa Cruz. She has also worked as a Supervisory Criminal Investigator for the Presidio of Monterey and as a Police Officer for the Seaside and Sand City Police Departments, all located in my congressional district.

In 2003, Chief Hostetler deployed for the first time to Iraq. There, she provided security to the Presidential Envoy to Iraq, L. Paul Bremer. Not only was this her first deployment, but she also distinguished herself as the first woman to provide protective services in a combat zone.

After her deployment to Iraq, she served as the team officer in charge of the protective detail for former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, my father. Her service to my family is greatly appreciated by my parents, my two brothers and me. There is nothing more awe inspiring than public servants who are willing to place themselves in harm's way for the protection of others. I know my family joins me in commending Mary for her forty years of public service to our nation, and wishing her the very best for a well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA GOLDEN FOR HER COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2017*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Virginia Golden, a dedicated volunteer and resident of Buffalo, New York. Virginia's tireless service is recognized today by None Like You/We Care Outreach and the City of Buffalo.

Virginia is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo and is a proud mother and grandmother. Virginia worked for 37 years as a human service provider at various agencies and retired as the director of rehabilitative service at an adult residence program.

Mrs. Golden is a member of a number of organizations in the Buffalo community and is an active advocate for the beautification of the

community, environmental justice and adult education. She volunteers her time tutoring and educating those in low income communities. She had shown her devotion to education by working with youth over the summer and with the None Like You/We Care Outreach program to improve their reading and writing skills and helps students who want to attend college.

Virginia is a member of the None Like You Community Outreach board and volunteers to improve the quality of life in our community by aiding in the conversion of empty lots into gardens and clean green space, turning abandoned houses into homes, and working on clean-up initiatives with local colleges. She's worked with United Way and their Day of Care project for the past 7 years and is an active member of the Clean Air Coalition and Neighbors and Friends Fighting for Justice.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Mrs. Virginia Golden and her admirable dedication to the City of Buffalo. Her commitment to education and the rehabilitation of the community is exceptional, and she is most deserving of this recognition by None Like You/We Care and the City of Buffalo.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2017*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on February 13 through 16, 2017, circumstances beyond my control necessitated my absence from the House and I, therefore, am requesting a leave of absence from the House.

IN HONOR OF KATHY McLAUGHLIN'S SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY

### HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2017*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize Ms. Kathy McLaughlin of Prescott, Arizona. Kathy is an accomplished and respected former law enforcement officer whose career has resulted in a series of firsts for women serving on the force in Arizona. Her distinguished service is deserving of all of our admiration.

Kathy's career in law enforcement began in 1977, when she was hired as Yavapai County's first female fulltime patrol deputy. She excelled in the role. Having proven her place on the force, she was transferred in 1987 to Black Canyon City and promoted to sergeant. This promotion provided Kathy the second first of her career, as no other woman had served as a patrol supervisor in Black Canyon City until then. In 1998, while stationed in Prescott,

Kathy was promoted to Lieutenant. Kathy prioritized community engagement and trust while in the line of duty, a necessity in smaller, rural communities. She played a key role in the introduction and implementation of Yavapai County's Volunteers in Protection program in 1994, which to this day recruits qualified and trained citizen volunteers to participate in uniformed patrols.

Following her service on the police force, Kathy transitioned to serving as the Executive Director of the Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Network. Kathy's track record of excellence continued on into this role, which she held until her retirement last year. From her position at the helm of the Network, Kathy leveraged her organizational abilities and her tremendous compassion for the plight of victims of sexual and physical abuse to deliver resources and training to advocacy centers across Arizona. Kathy and her amazing career serve as a beacon of civic duty and care for one's community, and I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to recognize her today.

### REMEMBERING THOMAS O'CONNOR

### HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2017*

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a great fourth-generation Texan, Thomas Marion O'Connor of Victoria, Texas, who passed away recently at the age of 94.

Like his family before him who settled in Refugio County in the 1800s, Mr. O'Connor was a true Texan, a cattleman and a devout Catholic. He lived his life with gusto, practicing exemplary land stewardship, philanthropy and commitment to his community—traits he passed on to his children and grandchildren. He was also an American hero, serving during World War II in the United States Army Air Corps, the precursor to the United States Air Force.

Mr. O'Connor was well known in the community for his philanthropic endeavors, providing support to the church, the arts, schools, local health care systems and more. He was a leader in the community and an active board member for many different groups representing broad interests like agriculture, banking and education. He leaves behind a loving family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren who share his love for community and spirit. I offer my condolences to his family. Mr. O'Connor will be missed.

### THE ABO GROUP

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2017*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Abo Group, Inc. for

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